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what ground should "Ramón Bonifacio" get an accent, while "Ramón Berenguer", Ramón Lull", and "Ramón Moncada" do not? Why should "González" be accented on page 204, and fail to receive an accent elsewhere? Why not an accent on "desafío" and "señorío"? Why an accent at all on "Cangas"? Scores of other instances might be cited. In addition some minor typographical errors were not caught in proof (I. 21 n. 2, 67 n. 1, 68, 187, 251, n. 4, 258, 261, 262, 287. Not noted for v. II.). All of these matters, however, are minor in character as affecting the value of the book, and they can easily be changed in a second edition.

A number of excellent maps illustrate the wide-reaching text, and a good index is provided at the end of volume two. The book is the last word in the printer's art. Broad margins, generous spacing, and large-sized type join with the excellent English style of the author to make the volumes a pleasure to read. Decidedly, in the opinion of this reviewer, Professor Merriman's work is an important and welcome addition to the literature of Spanish history.

CHARLES E. CHAPMAN.

The Five Republics of Central America: Their political and economic development and their relations with the United States. By DANA G. MUNRO. [Printed . . . for the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, of Washington, D. C.] (New York: Oxford University Press, American Branch, 1918. Pp. xviii, 332. \$3.50.)

This is one of the many useful books that have been, or in the future will be, published by the Carnegie Endowment with the general purpose of fostering closer interest and sympathy between the United States and the Hispanic American countries. In his preface the author explains the difficulties which confront the investigator into the history of Central America, of which the chief are the paucity of sources, either primary or secondary, and the unreliability of many of those which exist. In writing an account of the development of the Central American countries, one must decide whether he will deal with the countries all together or with each separately. In either case adequate treatment is impossible without considerable duplication and repetition. In some of his chapters Mr. Munro has followed one method and in others, the other.

In the first, on "The Country and the People" he studies the facts more or less common to all of the countries concerning topography, climate, products, industries, commerce, racial mixtures, social and

economic conditions, education, and moral standards. The second chapter, on "Central American Political Institutions", also studies the countries together. It is a presentation of the facts common to all or several of them in their historical and political development. After reviewing briefly the establishment of independence he depicts the early indecision concerning the question of union with México or complete independence, showing the circumstances which decided for the latter. Then the conflict between the centralistic and federalistic tendencies is reviewed. After the formation of the confederation the forces which weakened it during the decade and a half of its precarious and fitful existence and caused its decline and ultimate dissolution are portrayed. After this review of the defeat of the Liberals with their unionist tendencies in the decade of the thirties, he studies the triumph of the Conservatives and their policy of local independence for about the next quarter of a century, which was followed by the liberal revolutions in the seventies and by abortive attempts to revive the union during the rest of the century. The characteristic features of Central American political institutions and practices are ably and impartially presented.

After these two general studies the writer devotes one full chapter to each of the five countries setting forth its individual characteristics, and showing its points of similarity and contrast with the others. Many of the same topics enumerated above as being discussed in the first chapter are again and again reviewed, but with reference to the individual country under consideration each time. Mr. Munro has succeeded better than any other author known to the present reviewer in making each of the Central American republics stand out as an individual, distinct from its neighbors.

With the eighth chapter, "The Establishment of a Central American Confederation", he returns to the general treatment, as the subject requires, tracing from the completion of the independence movement to the date of the publication of his book this most interesting thread of events in the history of the region, showing that the need of union has always been recognized, that the desire for it has always existed, and that repeated attempts have been made to realize it, but showing also why they have always resulted in failure or only ephemeral unions. The reader is left with little hope that this great desideratum will be attained in the near future. "The Causes of Central American Revolutions" is the subject of the next chapter.

The tenth chapter ably and appreciably explains the occasion for, the proceedings of, and the salutary results of, "The Washington Conference of 1907", which the writer says marks an epoch of the greatest significance in the development of Central America, since it practically ended the baneful influence, hitherto so frequently exercised, by one or more states on the internal political affairs of others and terminated the recurrent international conflicts thus engendered. In the eleventh chapter, on "The Intervention of the United States in Nicaragua", the author gives a lucid discussion of the intolerable political conditions and the circumstances which led to the intervention in 1909 and to the establishment of a virtual, though not a nominal, protectorate. He then studies the serious difficulties which the intervention brought about, involving the interests of foreign investors in Nicaragua, jeopardizing the independence and sovereignty if not the very separate existence of Nicaragua and possibly of other states, incurring the suspicion and hostility of the other republics of Central America and even of all Hispanic America, and making it next to impossible for the United States to convince Nicaraguans, Hispanic Americans, or the rest of the world, that its motives were disinterested and its tenure intended to be temporary, especially since it has been considered essential for the United States to maintain by force or by threats governments in power in Nicaragua which have not had and apparently cannot hope to obtain the support of a majority of the people.

The subject of the twelfth chapter is "Commerce". Considered from the standpoint of foreign trade, the most important product of these countries is coffee, which is produced in the uplands and mountain valleys and in the production of which natives almost alone are interested as proprietors, promoters, and laborers. The second most important article is bananas, the production of which is as exclusively foreign as that of coffee is native, which gives rise to the popular notion that the production of this very useful food absorbs most if not all the economic activities of the countries, whereas the industry is of comparatively little interest from the native standpoint. The third class of exports in order of importance is produced by the mines, which for several decades were the chief source of Spain's apparently inexhaustible supply of the precious metals in the early colonial period. Owing to the decline of Spanish activity during the last century of her colonial tenure and to the constant revolutionary turmoil and destruction of property during the century since independence the mines have not been extensively worked until recently when the prevalence of order has re-

vived an interest in this which one day may again become the chief industry. There are many other exports of considerable value in the world markets, but none of them approach these three in importance. Manufactured articles from Europe and the United States constitute the imports received in exchange for these exports, the lion's share having been supplied by the United States even before the World War. The concluding chapter studies "Central American Public Finance".

Both the scholarship of the author and the mechanical make up of his book are such as to leave little to be desired and no defects serious enough to deserve much adverse criticism. The citation of authorities is not as frequent as is usually expected in a work of this kind; but that is doubtless due to the character of the authorities, mentioned above, and to the fact that much of the author's information has been gleaned by himself in those countries. The bibliography at the close of the volume gives a good, and surprisingly long, list of what are called "the more important historical and descriptive material dealing with Central America". It should be added that many of them have been seldom, if at all, cited in the body of the book.

WILLIAM R. MANNING.

Santo Domingo: a Country with a Future. By OTTO SCHOENRICH. (New York: Macmillan, 1918. Pp. 418. Illus. and map. \$3.00.)

This book is distinctly the most comprehensive work upon the Dominican Republic that has, so far appeared in English, and it is a welcome addition to the meagre literature upon the subject. The author was unusually well-fitted for his task, for he had had many years of experience in connection with other Hispanic-American lands as well as in Santo Domingo, during which he helped them solve various public problems. He was therefore, qualified not only to gather and present the facts regarding the Dominican Republic itself, but—what is of greater importance—was equipped with an understanding of, and a sympathetic attitude towards, the Hispanic-American viewpoint, the lack of which on the part of the author has discounted the value of many a book treating of our neighbors to the south.

It was not the author's primary aim, however, to give an interpretation of Santo Domingo, but rather to present a bird's eye view of the land as it is—or was in the immediate past. In preparation for this general survey, he first devotes several chapters to a sketch of Dominican history from 1492 to 1918. Much of this part of the book is merely